

U.S. Department of Justice

United States Attorney Eastern District of Wisconsin

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NEWS SUMMARY:

June 25, 2010

Former Union Official Charged with Embezzling Union Funds

United States Attorney James L. Santelle announced that Paula Dorsey (59) of Milwaukee has been charged by information with embezzling labor union funds in violation of 29 U.S.C. § 501(c). If convicted, Ms. Dorsey faces a maximum possible fine of not more than \$250,000, imprisonment for not more than 5 years, or both, plus a mandatory \$100 special assessment, a maximum of three years of supervised release, and the payment of restitution. In a plea agreement also filed, the United States and the defendant have agreed that restitution is \$180,000.

The charge is based on allegations that during a period from 2004 through May 2009, while Ms. Dorsey was president of District Council 48 of the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees (AFSCME), she embezzled money from an account funded by the AFSCME International Union for Operation Big Vote, a non-partisan program to encourage minority voting.

The case was investigated by the Office of Labor-Management Standards of the Department of Labor. It will be prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Mel S. Johnson. An arraignment has been scheduled before United States District Judge Rudolph T. Randa for August 4, 2010.

These allegations do not themselves constitute inference of the defendant's guilt. An individual is presumed innocent until such time, if ever, that the government establishes his or her guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

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